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ENTERTAINMENT

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FOR
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2013

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COVER D



2013
KYLE RITTER



Direct Edition
by Pasquale Qualano
John Starr



Direct Edition
by Pasquale Qualano
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HONOR BOUND

PART 4 OF 5

BRIAN BUCCELLATO

- story -

PASQUALE QUALANO

- pencils -

JOHN ERCEK

- digital inks -

JOHN STARR

- colors -

JOSH REED

- lettering -

The story so far...

Iris discovered that retrieving the Executive Assistant-in-training, Cherry, was only half the battle--as containing the young girl proved to be an even tougher challenge. Yet, the pair quickly realized they were a target, and fell victim to an ambush at the hands of Snapdragon and the Cambodian Triad. Now, the ownership of Cherry has been put on the market, with an opening bid of \$50 million...

Executive Assistant: Iris created by David Wohl, Brad Foxhoven & Michael Turner

Editors: VINCE HERNANDEZ, FRANK MASTROMAURO Design and Production: MARK ROSLAN, PETER STEIGERWALD, JOSH REED

Lettering font designed by: DREAMER DESIGN

FOR ASPEN:

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ALL NEW EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: IRIS™ Vol. 4 Issue 4

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SHE'S
WAKING
UP...

SNAPDRAGON...
WHERE IS
CHERRY?

I'D SAY
YOU HAVE MORE
IMPORTANT THINGS
TO WORRY
ABOUT.

I SEE.
SO, WHAT IS
THIS... YOU WANT
A SHOT AT THE
TITLE?

FOR AN
ASIAN, YOU KNOW
A LOT OF WESTERN
EXPRESSIONS.

ENOUGH
WITH THE CLEVER
QUIPS... GET ON
WITH IT.

HELLO
TO YOU,
TOO.

THIS IS
GOING TO BE
GOOD.

I'M AN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT BY TRADE. I MET SNAPDRAGON A WEEK AGO AT A JOB INTERVIEW. AFTER AN UNORTHODOX INTERVIEW PROCESS, I GOT THE CONTRACT.

IT SEEMS SHE TOOK THE SLIGHT PERSONALLY.

SHE ALSO MUST HAVE BEEN IN LEAGUE WITH THE CAMBODIAN TRIAD, WHO BETRAYED ME WHILE I WAS TRYING TO PROTECT THE LIFE OF A YOUNG EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT STUDENT NAMED CHERRY.

SHE COULD'VE KILLED ME WHILE MY BACK WAS TURNED.

INSTEAD, SHE BROUGHT ME HERE WITH THE INTENT OF DOING IT IN SINGLE COMBAT... IN FRONT OF OUR PEERS.

SHE MAY BE A DUPLICIOUS BITCH...

...BUT AT LEAST SHE'S OFFERING AN HONORABLE WARRIOR'S DEATH.

NOT FOR MYSELF...
FOR HER.

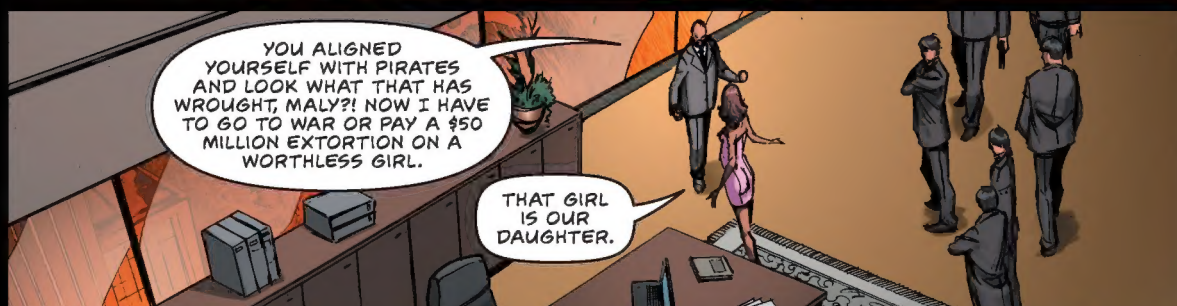




ANYONE ELSE?

I DIDN'T THINK SO.

\$HIT. THAT WAS MY SWORD.





THIS IS THE SECOND TIME WE MEET IN A STANDOFF. THERE WON'T BE A THIRD.

WE AGREE ON THAT POINT, MISTER SHAO.

IRIS!
IRIS, PLEASE...

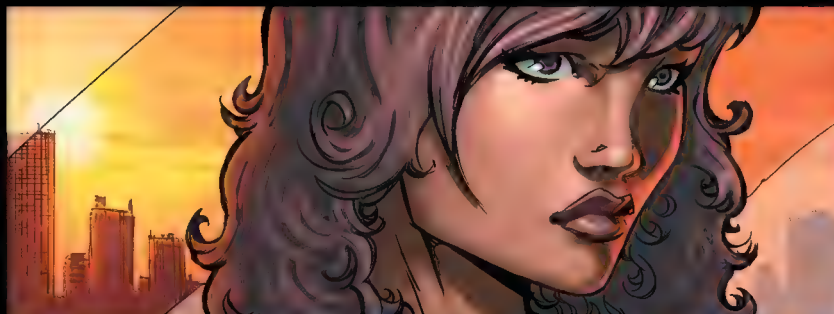
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO OUTBID ME FOR THE GIRL, MALY.

SHAO'S GOING TO KILL HER. WE CAN'T LET HIM USE HIS WEALTH TO GET TO HER.

I'M HONOR BOUND--

--YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HONOR IS!

I DON'T CARE IF HE WAS YOUR FIRST OR ONLY LOVE... WHY DO YOU SUBMIT TO HIM? WHAT IS HIS HOLD ON YOU?



HONOR
IS NOTHING
WITHOUT SOMEONE
WORTH HONORING. YOU
HAVE A DAUGHTER... HER
ADULTEROUS FATHER
IS NOT WORTH
CHERRY'S
LIFE.

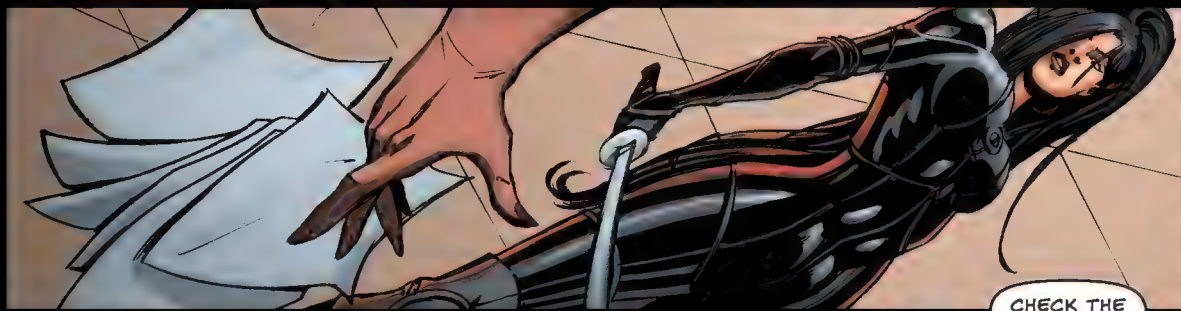
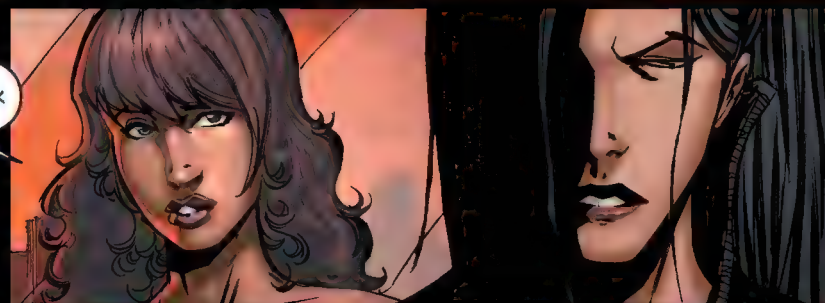
AND
YOU ARE
NOT WORTH MY
TIME. AT ANY
PRICE. I
QUIT.



CHERRY'S
BLOOD IS
ON YOUR
HANDS.



WAIT. YOU
DON'T WORK
FOR ME.



CHECK THE
CONTRACT.



I HIRED YOU
AS CHERRY'S
EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT...
NOT MINE.



WHAT
DOES YOUR
HONOR TELL
YOU, NOW?

PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA.

MALY IS HIDING SOMETHING.
HER LOYALTY TO SHAO SHOULD NOT BE
STRONGER THAN BLOOD. HER CODE OF HONOR,
WHILE INTACT, DOESN'T PUT HER ABOVE
MANIPULATION AND DECEIT.

MALY PLANNED FOR
THIS ALL ALONG. KNOWING MY OWN
CODE OF ETHICS WON'T ALLOW ME
TO TURN MY BACK ON CHERRY.

I'VE BEEN
PLAYED FOR A
FOOL.

IT'S FINE. AFTER I
EXTRACT CHERRY FROM
THIS NONSENSE...

...MALY WILL GET
HER RECKONING.



THIS IS A REVOLTING
METHOD OF INFILTRATION.
HOWEVER, SINCE I DON'T KNOW
HOW MANY I'M FACING OR
WHERE CHERRY IS...



...IT WILL HAVE TO DO.

BECAUSE OF MALY'S
PREVIOUS AFFILIATIONS WITH THIS
CAMBODIAN CRIMINAL OUTFIT, I WAS
ABLE TO GET SOME INTELLIGENCE
THAT SHOULD PROVE USEFUL.

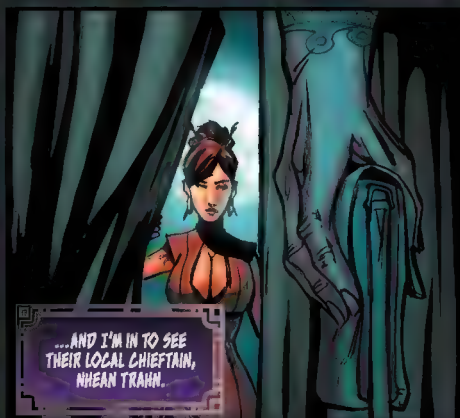


THEY'RE MORE
DISORGANIZED AND
RECKLESS THAN SOME
OF THE OTHER ASIAN
TRIADS...

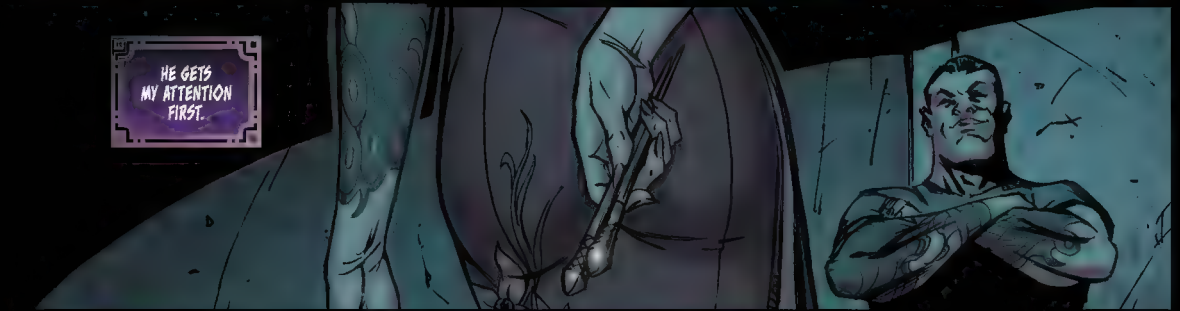
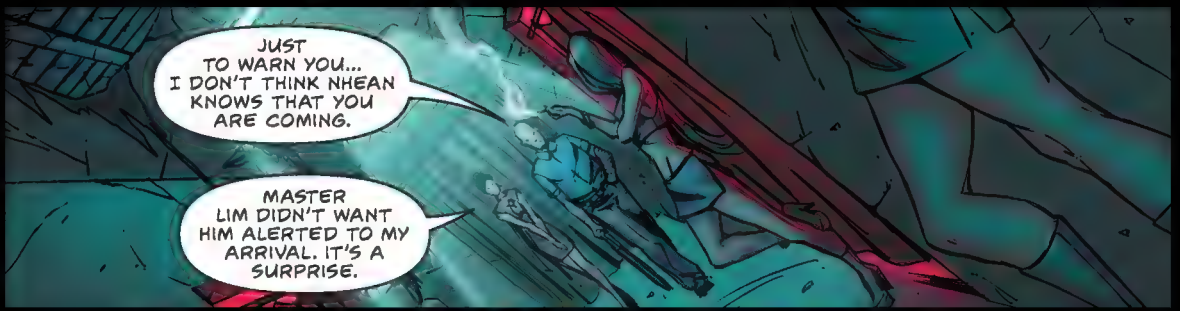


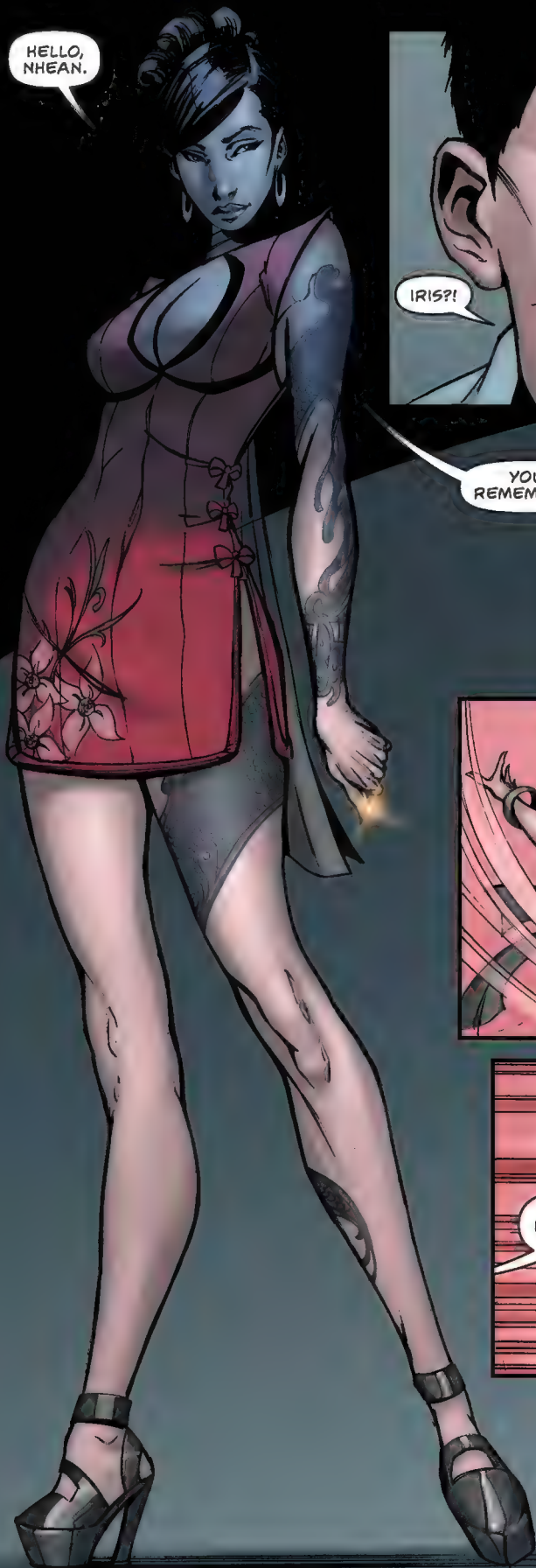
...SO IT SHOULDN'T TAKE MUCH TO
CONVINCE THESE LOW LEVEL THUGS.

I DROP THE NAME OF A HIGH-RANKING
MEMBER, OFFER A SEDUCTIVE SMILE...



...AND I'M IN TO SEE
THEIR LOCAL CHIEFTAIN,
NHEAN TRAHN.





HELLO,
NHEAN.



IRIS?!

YOU
REMEMBER.



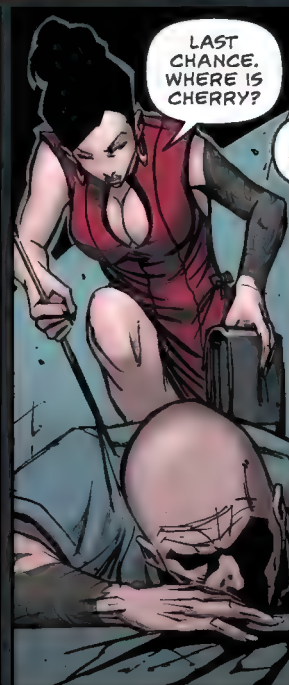
THUK



AHHHH!

I'LL BE
RIGHT WITH
YOU...

THK





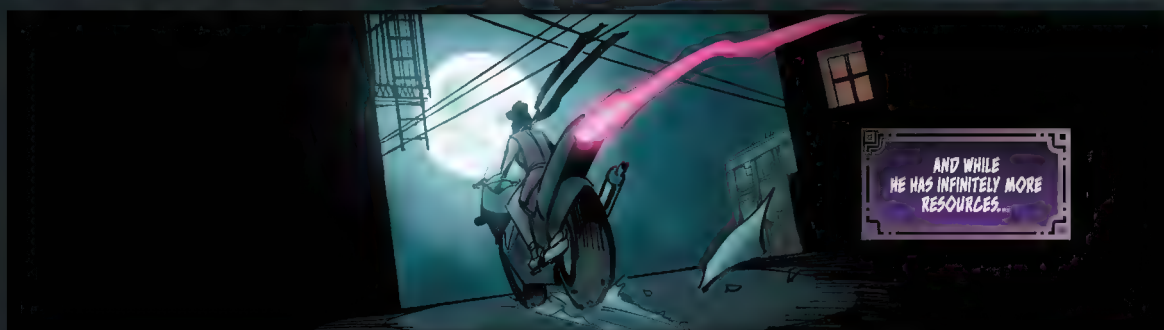
"SAKNGEA...
HIS NAME IS,
SAKNGEA."



NHEAN!

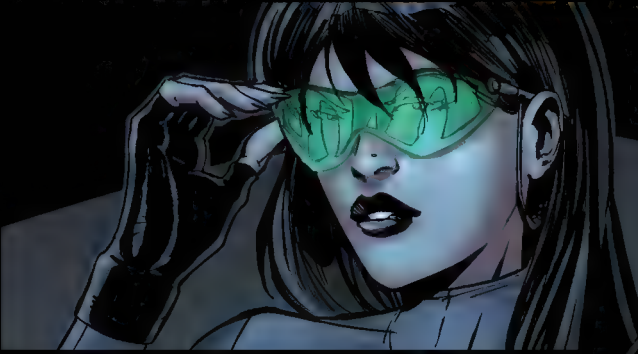


TIME IS AGAINST
ME. NO DOUBT
SHAO IS ALSO
TRYING TO FIND
CHERRY.



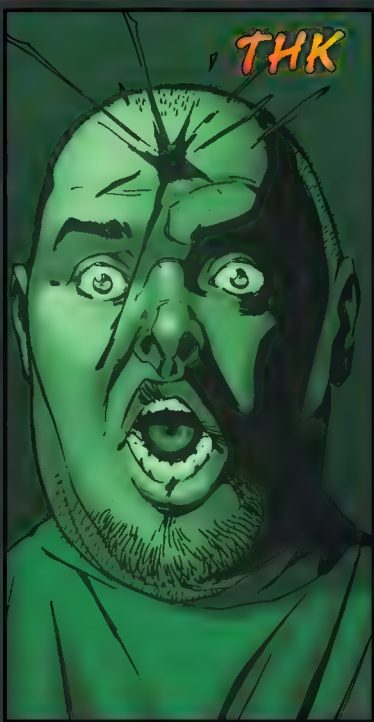
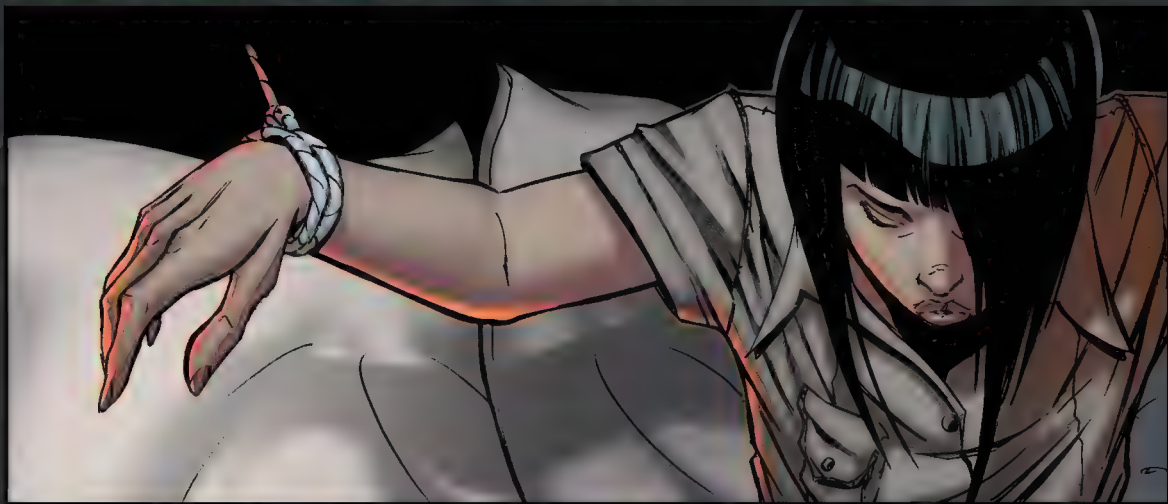
AND WHILE
HE HAS INFINITELY MORE
RESOURCES...





CHOOM



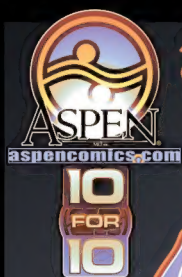








TO BE
CONCLUDED...
ALL NEW EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANT: IRIS #5



ALL NEW BLOCKADE ENTERTAINMENT EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IRIS #5

**DON'T MISS
THE FINAL
SHOCKING
ISSUE!**



WRITTEN BY:
BRIAN BUCCELLATO
(DETECTIVE COMICS, THE FLASH, BLACK BAT, FOSTER)

PENCILS BY:
PASQUALE QUALANO
(IDOLIZED, SOULFIRE: GRACE)

COLORS BY:
JOHN STARR
(LEGEND OF THE SHADOW CLAN, FATHOM, SOULFIRE)

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